reforms period i.e. 1988-89, 1989-90 and 1990-91 was 8.5 per cent while the average growth rate of industrial production has been 2.1 per cent during the first three years of economic refroms;

(b) whether it is also a fact that during the period 1981—91, the industrial growth was 7.8 per cent;

(c) if so, what are the reasons of sickness in industrial growth during the first three years of reforms despite delicensing and decontrol;

(d) whether Government have identified any specific reasons for the same; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SMT. KRISHNA SAHI): (a) The average rate of growth of industrial production during the period 1988-89 to 1990-91 was 8.5 per cent and for the period 1991-92 to 1993-94 was 2.3 per cent.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) to (e) The overall industrial growth was constrained by the balance of payment crisis of 1991 which required imports squeeze affecting availability of inputs and their costs; the tight monetary policy for containing inflation which affected demand and raised the cost of borrowing for the industries and a fall in investment demand due to reduction in public expenditure and investment.

UNDP assistance on streamlining trade mark registry

699. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that UNDP has offered assistance to set up projects on modernisation of patent information system and streamlining the process in the trade marks registry;

(b) if so, the status of these projects and the time-frame set for making them operational; and

(c) whether Government propose to streamline the copy-right administrative set-up to dispense protective rights to Intellectual Property Rights holedrs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SMT. KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Two projects, namely, modernisation of Patent Information System and the modernisation of Trade Marks Registry, with the assistance of UNDP are presently under implementation. The project relating to modernisation of Patent Information System commenced in January, 1992 and is expeced to be completed by December, 1995.

The project for modernisation of Trade Marks Registry commenced in June, 1993 wih an implementation period of 2 years.

(c) The Government has taken a number of steps to improve the enforcement of copyright administration.

Adverse impact of liberalisation on Small Scale Units

700. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it a fact that the liberalisation process has adversely affected the Small Scale Industry Sector, resulting in closure/under-utilisation of capacity of small scale units;

(b) what are the measures taken to safeguard the small scale sector's interests in the matter of disbursement of credit by banks and FIs.; and

(c) whether the recommendations of the Nayak Committee examining the issue of credit and sickness pertaining to small scale units submitted in 1992, has been studied by Government and if so, what follow-up measures have been initiated so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) A Committee was appointed by RBI under the Chairmanship of Shri P. R. Nayak, the then Deputy Governor of RBI, to Examine the Adequacy of Institutional Credit to the SSI Sector and Related Aspects in 1991. The major recommendations of the Nayak Committee have been incorporated in the credit policies issued by RBI subsequently. A special package of measures of financing of small scale industries has been incorporated in the Credit Policy issued in April 1993. Reserve Bank has issued detailed guidelines to commercial banks on various aspects of finance to SSI sector. With a view to ensure that the disbursement of credit is not delayed, banks have been instructed to adhere to the time limit for disposal of applications. While applications upto a credit limit of Rs. 25,000/- should be disposed of within a fortnight, those for over Rs. 25,000/- should be disposed within 8 to 9 weeks from the date of receipt. Requests for increase in limits should be considered expeditiously and decision should be taken promptly in any case within 6 weeks. Further all cases of rejection/curtailment of limits to SSI units should be looked into by the next higher authority so as to ensure that the entrepreneurs are not put to unnecessary hardships Besides RBI have also advised the banks to open specialised SSI branches to cater to the needs of SSI units.

(c) Recommendations of the Nayak Committee pertaining to issue of credit to sick SSI units have been examined by Reserve Bank and necessary instructions issued to Banks reiterating the already issued instructions besides modifying the definition of sick SSI units etc. For tackling the problems of industrial sickness in SSI sector and rehabilitation of sick SSI units RBI had issued guidelines in February 1987 and the same were modified in June 1989. Subsequent to the acceptance of Nayak Committee recommendations, RBI has issued detailed guidelines in this regard containing, *inter alia*, revised definition of sick SSI units, viability norms, incipient sickness as also reliefs and concessions from banks/financial institutions for implementation of packages in the case of potentially viable units. In the field of credit, a normative supply of working capital to the minimum of 20 per cent of the projected annual turnover of the SSI sector has been stipulated. Banks and State Financial Corporations have been designated specially to meet the credit requirement of SSI Sector in 85 districts where these units are concentrated through single Window Scheme. Dedicated and specialised bank branches to cater exclusively to SSI units have also been recommended by the Committee and accepted by the RBI

Re-training facilities under National Renewal Fund

701 SHRI B K. HARIPRASAD:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether many workers in public sector affected by restructuring have not yet been provided the social safety net through National Renewal Fund;

(b) the number of centres set up under NRF to offer re-training facilities to affected industrial workers that are operational; and